

PEKING REVIEW

28

July 11, 1975

北
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周
報

**Chairman Mao Meets
Vice-President Marouf**

**Fundamental Charter for
Consolidating the Dictatorship
Of the Proletariat**

**Middle East: A New Round of
Soviet-U.S. Contention**

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CONTENTS

THE WEEK

3

Chairman Mao Meets Vice-President Marouf
Vice-President Marouf Visits China
Message of Solicitude for Flood-Hit Romanian People
Greeting Independence of Cape Verde Islands
Government Delegation of Republic of Guinea-Bissau
China-Albania Agreements and Protocols Signed
Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj Ends Visit

ARTICLES AND DOCUMENTS

At Banquet Welcoming Vice-President Marouf:
Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping's Speech (Excerpts) 8
Vice-President Marouf's Speech (Excerpts) 9
New Constitution: Fundamental Charter for Consolidating the Dictatorship of
the Proletariat—Liang Hsiao and Lu Pin 10
International Women's Year World Conference: Struggle Against Hegemony—
Hsinhua Correspondent 14
Middle East: A New Round of Soviet-U.S. Contention 15
Tibet's Big Leap (IV): Great Changes—Our Correspondents Hsi Chang-hao
and Kao Yuan-mei 17

ROUND THE WORLD

20

Laos: Statement of Patriotic Front
South Viet Nam: New Situation in Revolution and Production
"October" (Finland): Behind the European Security Conference
France: Against Superpowers' Rivalry in Mediterranean
Malaysia: "Asian Security System"—a Trap

ON THE HOME FRONT

22

Dyke Construction in Wuhan
Air-Cleaning Techniques Developed
Electric Carts for Textile Workers
Large Hobbing Machines
Stockings Worn in Paddyfields

Chairman Mao Meets Vice-President Marouf

CHAIRMAN Mao Tsetung met on July 6 with Taha Muhyiddin Marouf, Vice-President of the Republic of Iraq, and the official members of the Iraqi Government Delegation he was leading.

Official members of the Iraqi Government Delegation taking part in the meeting were: Hikmat Al-Azzawi, Minister of Economy; Mohammad Sabri Al-Hadithi, Under-Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; Falih A.R. Al-Samarrai, Iraqi Ambassador to China; and Abdul Wadoud Al-Shaikhly, Ambassador and Director-General of Protocol of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Chairman Mao expressed his welcome to Vice-President Marouf and the other distinguished Iraqi guests on their visit to China. After shaking hands with each of the guests, he had a cordial and friendly conversation with Vice-President Marouf, Minister Al-Azzawi and Under-Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Al-Hadithi.

Present at the meeting and conversation were Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, Vice-Foreign Minister Wang Hai-jung, the Foreign Ministry's Deputy Department Director Tang Wen-sheng and Li Liu-ken.



Vice-President Marouf Visits China

Taha Mahyiddin Marouf, Vice-President of the Republic of Iraq, and the Iraqi Government Delegation he led paid an official visit to China from July 4 to 7.

Press Communiqué

A press communiqué published after the visit said: "During their stay in China, Vice-President Marouf and the members of the delegation visited historical monuments and scenic spots and were accorded warm welcome and friendly reception by the Chinese Government and people.

"Chairman Mao Tsetung met Vice-President Marouf, and they had a cordial and friendly conversation. Chairman Mao requested Vice-President Marouf to convey his regards to President Ahmed Hassan Al-Bakr upon returning to Iraq.

"Premier Chou En-lai also met Vice-President Marouf. Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping and Vice-President Marouf held talks in a sincere and friendly atmosphere. The two sides exchanged views on major international issues of common interest and



Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Chu Teh shakes hands with Vice-President Marouf.

on further developing the friendly relations and co-operation between China and Iraq. Both sides expressed satisfaction with the results of the talks.

China and Iraq had grown daily and friendly exchanges between the two countries had steadily increased. Both sides were resolved to make joint efforts for the continued development of the friendly relations and co-operation between the governments of the two countries and the friendship between the two peoples.

"During the visit, the two sides signed some documents on developing the trade and economic and technical co-operation between the two countries.

"The two sides pointed out with satisfaction that the visit of the Iraqi Government Delegation headed by His Excellency Vice-President Marouf to the People's Republic of China was a complete success as well as a new contribution to the furtherance of the friendship and amicable co-operation between the two countries."



The Iraqi guests receive a warm welcome on their arrival in Peking.



Premier Chou En-lai meets Vice-President Marouf.

Speeches at the Banquets

On July 4, Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping gave a grand banquet in the Great Hall of the People in honour of the Iraqi guests. Vice-Premier Teng and Vice-President Marouf spoke at the banquet. (For excerpts of their speeches see pp. 8 and 9.)

Vice-President Marouf gave a grand banquet on July 6.

At the banquet Vice-President Marouf said: "The relations between Iraq and China are unbreakable, they are constantly growing in the interest of our two countries and peoples." He hoped that the visit will contribute to "further strengthening the common struggle of our two countries and peoples against imperialism and Zionism and for construction, progress and development."

The Vice-President noted that recently the peoples have won victories in many parts of the world after long years of arduous struggle. "It is an eloquent proof that the imperialist-imposed schemes for the subjugation and enslavement of the peoples of the world and for the plunder of their resources and wealth have suffered defeat," he added.

He continued: "Imperialism will never lay down its big stick. Though suffering a defeat in one part of the world, it seeks by greater effort and concentration to throw its forces into other regions. The role played by imperialism and Zionism in the Arab region, their attempt to strike at and foil the Palestinian revolution, the pushing of various capitulationist solutions and the intensification of Zionist colonial aggression in Palestine—these are all part of a conspiracy directed against the forces of national liberation and revolution with the purpose of enabling imperialism and its monopoly cliques to go on robbing the peoples of their human and material resources and food grains."

Vice-President Marouf reiterated Iraq's principled stand of supporting the right of the Palestinian Arab people to liberate their homeland and decide their own destiny in Palestine—their motherland.

He condemned the United States for launching, of late, a campaign of threat and intimidation against the oil-producing countries. "This campaign, which threatens to occupy territories and oil wells, is not only a shameless violation of the rudimen-

tary criteria and spirit of international law and practice, but runs counter to the most elementary economic common sense," he stated.

In his speech, Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping said: "His Excellency the Vice-President's visit, though short, has made a positive contribution to enhancing our mutual understanding and strengthening the friendship between our two peoples and the friendly relations and co-operation between our two countries. It has been a very successful visit."

He said: "The Chinese and Iraqi peoples have always sympathized with and supported each other in the long struggle against imperialism and colonialism. The world today is not at all tranquil. In the face of the policies of aggression and hegemonism pushed by the super-powers, the Chinese people, the Iraqi people, all third world peoples and all the people of the world have common interests and share weal and woe. Both you and we feel the need to further develop our mutual relations. The development of the friendly relations between China and Iraq not only accords with the fundamental interests of our two peoples, but also benefits the third world's common cause of unity against imperialism and hegemonism. The Chinese people will always side with the people of Iraq and other third world countries, fight shoulder to shoulder and advance together with them to seize new and greater victories in the struggle against imperialism and hegemonism and for the cause of human progress."

Message of Solicitude for Flood-Hit Romanian People

Chairman Chu Teh of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Premier Chou En-lai sent a message on July 7 to

Romanian President Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Prime Minister Comrade Manea Manescu, expressing deep sympathy and solicitude for the Romanian Government and people and inhabitants in areas recently hit by continuous torrential rains.

The message expressed the belief that "the industrious and valiant Romanian people, under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party headed by Comrade Ceausescu, will surely overcome this disaster and quickly restore normalcy in production and life."

Of late there have been continuing downpours in some areas in the country, and rivers have overflowed, inundating dozens of cities and villages and damaging highway, railway, post and telecommunication and electric power networks. Led by the Romanian Communist Party, the Romanian people are now energetically engaged in a campaign for relief and against flood.

Greeting Independence of Cape Verde Islands

Premier Chou En-lai on July 4 sent a message to Aristides Pereira, General Secretary of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde, warmly greeting the independence of the Cape Verde Islands.

The message said: "The independence of the Cape Verde Islands is a major victory won by the people of Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau after waging a protracted and valiant struggle under the leadership of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde, and it marks another new achievement of the united struggle of the African people. As always, the Chinese Government and people will firmly support the Cape Verde Government and people in their just struggle."



Premier Chou En-lai meets Commissioner of State for Foreign Affairs Victor Saude Maria.

"May the people of Cape Verde win new successes in eliminating the forces of colonialism and building their country."

"May the friendship between the peoples of China and Cape Verde grow daily."

Government Delegation of Republic of Guinea-Bissau

Premier Chou En-lai met in a hospital on July 6 with Victor Saude Maria, Commissioner of State for Foreign Affairs, and members of the Government Delegation of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau he was leading.

The government delegation arrived in Peking on July 3.

Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua and Commissioner of State for Foreign Affairs Victor Saude Maria held talks in the capital.

At the banquet welcoming the delegation Chiao Kuan-hua said: The Republic of Guinea-Bissau is a new country born in the flames of a protracted armed struggle. The industrious and valiant people of Guinea-Bissau fought the Portuguese

colonialists in a long and heroic struggle against colonial rule and for national independence and liberation. The victorious development of the armed struggle by the people of Guinea-Bissau and other Portuguese colonies had accelerated the downfall of Portuguese fascist rule.

Chiao Kuan-hua said the people and Government of Guinea-Bissau, under the leadership of Luis Cabral, President of the Council of State, have waged unrelenting struggles to eliminate,

step by step, the colonialist forces, heal the wounds of war, rehabilitate and develop the national economy and consolidate the fruits of victory.

In international affairs, he added, the people and Government of Guinea-Bissau line up with the third world and have made their contributions to the cause of unity of the world's people against imperialism and colonialism.

In his speech, Commissioner of State for Foreign Affairs Victor Saude Maria said: Although Guinea-Bissau is far away from China geographically, "our hearts are linked with yours. The Chinese people are our esteemed friends. Our current visit to China will further strengthen the unity, friendship and relations of co-operation established between our two peoples in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism."

Recalling the armed struggle by the people of Guinea-Bissau against imperialism and colonialism, the Commissioner of State for Foreign Affairs said: The struggle is long and arduous. Today we have entered a new militant stage, the reconstruction of our country.

"Although we have won liberation, we still have great responsibility for

the cause of liberation because some people under colonialist rule have not yet won liberation and imperialism still has strength and is still staying in Africa. We should form a united front and continue our common struggle against imperialism in Africa and Asia," he stressed.

China-Albania Agreements And Protocols Signed

Agreements and protocols between China and Albania were signed in Peking on July 3. They were an agreement on China providing Albania with a long-term interest-free loan, a protocol on China providing Albania with complete sets of equipment for projects, a protocol on China supplying Albania with general materials and an agreement on goods exchange and payments from 1976 to 1980. Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Adil Carcani signed them.

The Albanian Government Economic Delegation with Adil Carcani, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour and First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, as leader and Petro Dode, Member of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Commission, as deputy leader paid a friendly visit to China from June 15 to July 4.

While in China, the Albanian comrades visited Shaoshan—the native place of Chairman Mao—Peking, Shanghai and the Takang Oilfield and were warmly welcomed wherever they went.

Leaving for home, the Albanian comrades received a warm send-off at Peking Airport from Li Hsien-nien, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Vice-Premier of the State Council; Wang Chen, Member of the C.P.C. Central

Committee and Vice-Premier, and other comrades.

Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj Ends Visit

Prime Minister Mom Rajwongse Kukrit Pramoj of the Kingdom of Thailand and his party left Kwangchow for home on July 6 by special plane, taking with them the friendship of the Chinese people for the Thai people.

The Prime Minister gave a grand banquet in the Great Hall of the People in Peking on July 2.

Speaking at the banquet, he said that, because of the signing of the joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between Thailand and China, the 1st of July 1975 has been inscribed in history as a day of special significance in relations between Thailand and China.

Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj emphasized: "There has never been a break in relations between the Thai and the Chinese people throughout history. In the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the People's Republic of China, I am merely acting in the capacity of agent of the desire and aspiration of the Thai people to reaffirm and consolidate the traditionally close and friendly relations between the peoples of the two countries."

He said: "I have come to China in a spirit of sincere friendship. I wish to thank all of you for receiving me in the same spirit. During the past three days, I and my party have exchanged views with you on matters of mutual interest to us. I believe you would agree with me that our conversations were frank and took place in a friendly atmosphere. For this reason, I am convinced that our relations will become closer in the future. I am well aware that there might be some difference of opinions between us, but what are these differences between relatives. The close affinity which exists between us will smooth them out in the end. I agree

with H.E. Teng Hsiao-ping's sentiment that, 'we will have little differences but a great unity.'"

Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping said at the banquet: This successful visit of Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj and the other distinguished Thai guests to our country is a major event of historic significance in the relations between China and Thailand. He sincerely hoped that in future the friendly relations between China and Thailand will grow stronger and develop continuously on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and the Chinese and Thai peoples will live in amity for generations to come.

He said: "During their visit to China, the distinguished Thai guests have made friendly contacts with our people. China is a developing socialist country. There is still much to do to achieve her prosperity. The current visit to China by our Thai friends has helped to increase our mutual understanding. We wish that more Thai friends will visit our country in the future. The Chinese people are ready to expand friendly contacts and exchanges with the Thai people."

"In the past," he said, "the Chinese and Thai peoples shared the common lot of being subjected to imperialist aggression and oppression, and today they face the common task of combating imperialism and hegemonism. Our two governments solemnly declare in the joint communique that they are opposed to any attempt by any country or group of countries to establish hegemony or create spheres of influence in any part of the world. This not only gives expression to the common desire of our two peoples, but is of practical importance for the advancement of the united struggle of the peoples of the world against hegemonism. We believe that so long as the people of all countries are united and wage a sustained struggle they will certainly be able to wipe the monster hegemonism from the face of the earth."

The Thai guests visited Peking, Shanghai, Kunming and Kwangchow.

Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping's Speech

(Excerpts)

IRAQ has a long history and a magnificent culture. The Iraqi people are a great people with a glorious tradition of combating imperialism. In ancient times, they created the splendid culture of the basin of the Tigris and Euphrates, making a valuable contribution to human civilization. In modern times, they waged a valiant, unrelenting and protracted struggle against colonialist and imperialist aggression. The Chinese people have always held the Iraqi people in sincere regard and high esteem for their revolutionary heroism of defying tyranny and daring to fight. We are happy to see that, under the leadership of President Ahmed Hassan Al-Bakr, the Iraqi Government and people have in recent years steadily achieved new successes in safeguarding state sovereignty and national independence and building their country. In international affairs, Iraq has persisted in combating imperialism and colonialism, supported the national-liberation movements in Asia and Africa and the just struggle of the Arab and Palestinian peoples against Israeli Zionist aggression and rendered active aid in the October War in the Middle East, thus making a useful contribution to the united struggle of the third world countries and people against imperialism. We heartily rejoice at your achievements and wish you new victories as you advance along the road of independence.

Distinguished Iraqi guests, you come from the Gulf area and the great Arab world, which has a glorious history. At present, the situation in the Gulf area is most encouraging, as is that throughout the world. The increasingly fierce contention between the superpowers and their expansion have aroused the peoples in this area to vigorous resistance and struggle and prompted them to closer unity; a new upsurge in the struggle against superpower interference, control, aggression and contention is emerging. At present, the peoples in this area are increasingly awakening and rising in hatred against the common enemies, and the countries there are strengthening their unity and fighting on a common front. They strongly demand the removal of big-power forces from this area and have called, one after another, for joint defence of the security of the area by the countries there. This just call is winning ever wider sympathy and support. The Chinese Government and people support this call resolutely. We are convinced that Iraq and the other Gulf countries and their peoples will certainly win greater victories in their just struggle to safeguard their state sovereignty and national independence.

It is especially gratifying that Iraq and Iran, after consultations on an equal footing, recently signed a treaty, resolving satisfactorily a dispute left over by history. This is a very good thing, and we extend our congratulations. Facts prove again and again that there is no fundamental conflict of interests or insoluble dispute between the third world countries who have common interests and fighting tasks, and that, because of these common interests, they have every reason to unite and no reason whatsoever for mutual estrangement. Their temporary differences can very well be settled by themselves in a reasonable way and in a spirit of mutual understanding and mutual accommodation, without outside interference. Unity is strength. The close unity of the third world countries is most feared by the superpowers, who will not give up easily, but will surely continue to sow discord and try to disrupt it. We should be fully on guard against this.

In the Middle East, the struggle of the people against imperialism and hegemonism is developing in depth following the valiant war of resistance waged by the Arab and Palestinian peoples in October 1973 and the use of the oil weapon, which dealt heavy blows at Israeli Zionism and superpower hegemonism. But the superpowers definitely will never halt or give up their aggression and contention in this region. They seek to restore the "no war, no peace" stalemate in the Middle East, with each aiming at expanding its own forces and influence. We feel certain that the peoples of the Arab countries and Palestine, who have a long tradition of anti-imperialist struggle, will frustrate all devilish manoeuvres of the superpowers and recover their lost territories and national rights so long as they strengthen their unity and persevere in struggle. The Chinese Government and people will, as always, firmly support the just struggle of the Arab and Palestinian peoples.

The Chinese and Iraqi peoples have always been friendly to each other. The traditional friendship between our two countries dates far back in history. Over long centuries, people of our two countries, crossing the mountains and sailing the seas, carried on frequent contacts and close economic and cultural interflow over land and sea. Today, both our countries are developing countries belonging to the third world and face the common tasks of safeguarding state sovereignty and national independence and building our countries. The identity of fighting tasks has opened up very broad prospects for the development of the friendly relations

and co-operation between our two countries. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the friendly relations and co-operation between our two countries have developed steadily with increasing contacts and

ever deepening mutual understanding. We believe that His Excellency Vice-President Marouf's current visit to China will surely make a new contribution to the friendly relations between China and Iraq.

Vice-President Marouf's Speech

(Excerpts)

OUR vast planet has become small indeed and, thanks to the unflinching will of man, his incandescent intellect, and his unparalleled creativeness, all barriers which had over long centuries separated between the peoples, their cultures and their common aspirations and yearnings, have been done away with. It is a significant fact indeed that our two peoples were able, at a time when communications among the peoples were meagre and inconsequential, to build between themselves close ties and relations which may be best described as ingenious and creative relations of cultural interaction.

The civilization of this century, which is characterized by advanced and fast-moving technology, is being applied today in two completely different, and I may say, conflicting ways in terms of methods and aims. While the intellect and inventiveness of man are utilized during the last quarter of the twentieth century to achieve a social and cultural breakthrough for mankind within the progressive part of the world, the entire creativeness of the human mind is harnessed to destroy the civilization of man by the imperialist circles, and man's very existence, security and tranquillity are put in grave jeopardy. Vis-a-vis these two diametrically opposed applications, our two countries occupy one and the same position. Our people is following with keen interest the gigantic achievement scored within Chinese society. You are doubtless acquainted, to the same extent, with the path traversed by our people in the achievements of social and economic progress and in pursuing its fearless struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The attainment by more than 800 million Chinese men and women of such advanced position in the realm of social progress indeed evokes the interest of humanity at large, and evokes in particular the interest of the countries of the third world, to which we belong. This fact presents the question of the triumph of the will of the peoples in their struggle for liberation and social progress as an imperative historical logic of the movement of human history, just as the decisive victory by our people in Iraq against the oil monopolies, thanks to its unrelenting struggle under the leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party, was an inspiring event for the countries of the third world and for the peoples of the world at large.

We are also happy that in visiting your great country we find ourselves so close to a part of the

world which has served over long years and is still serving as a model of valiant and tireless struggle against aggression and foreign intervention. The peoples of Indochina have broken the backbone of imperialism. The will of the peoples of Viet Nam and Cambodia, in their legitimate struggle for their sovereignty and freedom, has triumphed. But the imperialists fail to learn the lessons of history. Up to this day, those self-same imperialist circles insist on the continued stationing of their aggressive forces in south Korea under pretexts which convince no one. We have time and again emphasized that the proposals put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea serve as a good basis for the reunification of the two parts of Korea. The imperialists bear exclusively the responsibility of hindering the south Korean people from its exercise of the right to self-determination without any foreign interference.

In our Arab homeland, the hot-bed of tension is liable to explosion at any moment, due to the illegitimate existence of an alien entity which was imposed on the Arab people and the peoples of the area, and on the Palestinian Arab people itself, after a series of imperialist conspiracies and aggressive wars. Because imperialism and Zionism are two faces of one coin, the same methods practised by imperialism on the peoples of Indochina are now being practised in the Arab region.

The transformation of the Zionist entity into an arsenal of destructive weapons, the attempts to strengthen through settlements the Zionist existence on the territory of Palestine — all these liquidationist policies will meet the same fate met by the U.S. imperialist schemings in Indochina.

The policy of the Government of the Republic of Iraq in international relations is based on mutual respect and on joint, equal co-operation. It believes that it is within the actual ability of the countries of the third world and the non-aligned movement to play an influential role in international life, which they have actually done. Iraq has invariably sought to consolidate relations among those countries and promote solidarity with them. With regard to our neighbour, Iran, thanks to our common goodwill, a final and immutable solution has been arrived at to the problems which had disturbed relations with Iran over a long period.

Fundamental Charter for Consolidating the Dictatorship of the Proletariat

by Liang Hsiao and Lu Pin

OUR great leader Chairman Mao's important instruction on the question of the theory of proletarian dictatorship is a powerful ideological weapon for combating and preventing revisionism and for persisting in continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. China's new Constitution embodies the spirit of this instruction.

In his speech at the Ninth Congress of the Russian Communist Party (B) in 1920, Lenin pointed out: "After it has seized power, the working class maintains it, preserves it and consolidates it as every other class does, namely, by a change of property relations and by a new constitution." A constitution is a tool for dictatorship, and it is necessary for the proletariat to use it to confirm the fruits of victory of the revolution so that they will not be encroached upon; it sets down the goals which we must strive to achieve in the revolution so that the people of the whole country have a clear, well-defined course of advance. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China adopted in 1954 was China's first constitution of a socialist type. The new Constitution adopted in January this year by the Fourth National People's Congress is a continuation and development of the Constitution of 1954. It has summed up the historical experience of the dictatorship of the proletariat over the past two decades or so, particularly the new experience of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution since it started in 1966, consolidated our new victories and reflected the firm will of the people of the whole country to persevere in continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. It is the fundamental charter for persisting in the exercise of all-round dictatorship over the bourgeoisie in the new stage of development of China's socialist revolution and socialist construction.

Exercising All-Round Dictatorship Over The Bourgeoisie

Persistence in exercising all-round dictatorship of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie—this is in the basic interest of the proletariat and other working people in our country, and it is also the most important

and most essential manifestation of the socialist character of our Constitution. On the eve of the founding of New China, Chairman Mao pointed out that "this power" of the dictatorship of the proletariat "is now written into our programme; it will also be written into our constitution. Like food and clothing, this power is something a victorious people cannot do without even for a moment." (*Why It Is Necessary to Discuss the White Paper.*) The new Constitution stipulates: "The People's Republic of China is a socialist state of the dictatorship of the proletariat led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants." It shows most clearly the class nature of our country and the status of various classes in it. It adheres to the Marxist principled stand of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and has nothing in common with the "rule of virtue" and "benevolent rule" preached by Confucius and Lin Piao, the Soviet revisionists' "state of the whole people," or other bourgeois fallacies of all descriptions.

To exercise all-round dictatorship over the bourgeoisie, the proletariat must first politically suppress the resistance and activities directed towards restoration carried out by the exploiting classes. In socialist society, the landlord and capitalist classes have been overthrown, but these persons are still around and these classes still exist. Their resistance has become hundreds of times more desperate and insidious because of the victory of the proletariat. At the same time, the reactionary forces abroad always use the overthrown reactionary classes and newly engendered bourgeois elements and their agents in the socialist countries as tools for subversion and aggression. The proletariat, therefore, must use the state power and laws in its hands to relentlessly suppress the acts of sabotage and restoration attempts by the enemies at home and abroad so as to consolidate and develop the fruits of victory in the revolution and protect the people's interests. So long as there are classes and class struggle, and so long as there is imperialism and social-imperialism, we cannot weaken the state machinery, but must strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat and reinforce the

people's army and all other tools of dictatorship under the leadership of the Party.

Socialist society emerges from the old society and "is thus in every respect, economically, morally and intellectually, still stamped with the birth marks of the old society from whose womb it emerges." (Marx: *Critique of the Gotha Programme*.) The existence of bourgeois right is inevitable, and this provides the soil and conditions for engendering capitalism. The historical task of the proletarian dictatorship is not only to completely defeat the resistance of the exploiters and smash acts of aggression and subversion by imperialism and social-imperialism, but also to restrict bourgeois right and create conditions for gradually eliminating it, wipe out all vestiges of the old society and "create conditions in which it will be impossible for the bourgeoisie to exist, or for a new bourgeoisie to arise." (Lenin: *The Immediate Tasks of the Soviet Government*.)

The new Constitution meets the needs of this great historical task and embodies the brilliant concept of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Proceeding from the actual conditions in China today, the new Constitution recognizes that some of the bourgeois right will inevitably continue to exist over a considerably long historical period and that we cannot but make use of them; at the same time, however, with regard to some basic questions, the new Constitution embodies restrictions on bourgeois right. It stipulates that Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought is "the theoretical basis guiding the thinking of our nation," thereby fundamentally negating the ideology of the exploiting classes such as the concept of bourgeois right and the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius. The Party's basic line drawn up by Chairman Mao himself is the lifeline of our country. The Party's basic line demands that we persevere in the struggle between the two classes, the two roads and the two lines under socialist conditions, correctly distinguish and handle the two different types of contradictions, unite with more than 95 per cent of the cadres and the masses and carry out resolute struggle against the restoration activities of the handful of new and old bourgeois elements. By stipulating that "we must adhere to the basic line and policies of the Communist Party of China for the entire historical period of socialism," the new Constitution gives the Party's basic line legal force and thus facilitates mobilization and organization of the broad masses to combat and criticize revisionism and deal hammer blows at the handful of new and old bourgeois elements who carry out criminal activities in their vain efforts to extend bourgeois right and restore capitalism.

To guarantee implementation of the Party's basic line, it is necessary to strengthen the Party's centralized leadership organizationally. The new Constitution clearly lays down that "the Communist Party of China is the core of leadership of the whole Chinese people," "the National People's Congress is the highest organ of state power under the leadership of the Communist Party of China" and "the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China commands the country's armed forces." This emphatically stresses the Party's leading role in all state organizations and departments and is conducive to preventing representatives of the bourgeoisie like Lin Biao from creating independent kingdoms and usurping army and state leadership at different levels. In a word, the stipulations in the new Constitution concerning the guiding thought, the basic line and Party leadership are all reliable guarantees for fundamentally consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat, restricting bourgeois right and vanquishing the resistance of the bourgeoisie. These stipulations of a fundamental character are the essential spirit of the new Constitution.

Consolidating and Developing the Socialist Economic Base

The socialist economy is the material basis of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and without a powerful socialist economy the dictatorship of the proletariat cannot be consolidated. Over the past 20 years or so the people of our country, under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, have in the main completed the socialist transformation of the system of ownership, and socialist public ownership has basically replaced private ownership of the means of production. The socialist economic base has been gradually consolidated and expanded. The new Constitution fully affirms these great victories and clearly specifies that at the present stage in our country there are mainly two kinds of ownership, namely, socialist ownership by the whole people and socialist collective ownership by working people. It points out that "the state sector of the economy is the leading force in the national economy." The new Constitution also proclaims that "socialist public property shall be inviolable. The state shall ensure the consolidation and development of the socialist economy and prohibit any person from undermining the socialist economy and the public interest in any way whatsoever." This is an important guarantee for cracking down on capitalist forces, protecting public ownership of the means of production, preventing the restoration of those parts of bourgeois right in the system of ownership which have already been eliminated and promoting the consolidation and development of the socialist economy. The new Constitution

reiterates that the state applies the socialist economic principle of "grasping revolution, promoting production and other work and preparedness against war" and "promoting the planned and proportionate development of the socialist economy." This is of great significance for restricting bourgeois right and spontaneous capitalist tendencies in commodity production and guaranteeing that our production departments advance continuously along the socialist road.

Chairman Mao has pointed out: "In a word, China is a socialist country. Before liberation she was much the same as a capitalist country. Even now she practises an eight-grade wage system, distribution according to work and exchange through money, and in all this differs very little from the old society. What is different is that the system of ownership has been changed." He has also pointed out that "under the dictatorship of the proletariat" bourgeois right "can only be restricted." Restricting bourgeois right in the sphere of distribution is an important aspect in preventing the emergence of new bourgeois elements in large numbers and in the struggle against new bourgeois elements. China's Constitution stipulates that at the present stage the state applies the socialist principle: "He who does not work, neither shall he eat" and "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work." Putting this principle of distribution into practice is a revolution in the history of the system of distribution in our country; it is a negation of the unreasonable phenomenon of man exploiting man based on thousands of years of private ownership with a few seizing the fruits of labour without working for them and the many gaining little or nothing for their labour. This principle also in the main conforms to the current level of development of the productive forces. However, we must realize that this is still not of a communist nature. In *The State and Revolution*, Lenin pointed out: "It does not yet abolish 'bourgeois right,' which gives to unequal individuals, in return for unequal (really unequal) amounts of labour, equal amounts of products." This is a drawback and that is why our Party repeatedly stresses that, in implementing the principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work," it is imperative to take the Party's basic line as the key link, put proletarian politics in command and resolutely implement Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and the Party's policies.

The stipulation of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work" in China's Constitution was laid down according to the basic theory of Marxism in the light of actual conditions in socialist society; we recognize it and at the same time restrict it. We recognize it because its existence is

inevitable during the period of socialism, and for a considerably long period of time prior to the material and mental conditions becoming available for implementing the principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs," we can only continue to carry out this principle. However, the aim in recognizing it is to create the conditions for eliminating it, and before these conditions are ripe, it is necessary to adopt measures in policy to restrict and reduce it. Marxists are advocates of the theory of uninterrupted revolution and the theory of the development of revolution by stages. This demands that we must not only be aware that we cannot skip a historical stage to implement immediately the future communist system of distribution, but we must bear in mind the lofty aim of communism, energetically propagate communist ideology and advocate the communist working attitude, and we must never try to consolidate and extend bourgeois right and forget continuing the revolution.

Fight the "Bourgeois Wind," Combat and Prevent Revisionism

Bourgeois right is still prevalent to varying degrees in the relations between people in our society. The old and new bourgeois elements and persons who are deeply influenced by the ideology of bourgeois right always try their best to replace socialist relations between people with relations based on money or rank, relations between employer and employee and relations between rivals. This decadent wind of the bourgeoisie can even find its way into the Party and state organs and impair the dictatorship of the proletariat. To uphold the proletarian character of the state organizations, promote the revolutionization of state personnel and fight against corrosion of state personnel by bourgeois ideology and style of work, the new Constitution stipulates: "State organizations and state personnel must earnestly study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, firmly put proletarian politics in command, combat bureaucracy, maintain close ties with the masses and wholeheartedly serve the people. Cadres at all levels must participate in collective productive labour." To put the supervisory role of the masses into effect, the new Constitution specifically stipulates various democratic rights for citizens. This plays an important role in combating and preventing revisionism, fighting against the "bourgeois wind" and carrying out struggle against the activities of new and old bourgeois elements to usurp power and make a comeback.

An economic basis for the restoration of capitalism still exists in a socialist society. New bourgeois elements are engendered "in the force of habit, in the strength of small production." (Lenin: "Left-Wing"

Communism, An Infantile Disorder.) In China, after socialist transformation has been carried out, the small producers have embarked on the road of socialist collectivization, but this transformation has not been completed, and remnants of the small-producer economy still survive. The peasants still retain certain characteristics of the small producers, and in a section of the well-off peasants the spontaneous capitalist tendency still exists to a serious extent. These encircle, permeate and corrupt the proletariat from every side and **"achieve the very results which the bourgeoisie need and which tend to restore the bourgeoisie."** (Lenin: *"Left Wing" Communism, An Infantile Disorder.*) The proletariat must have a clear understanding of this problem and adopt a correct policy towards it. While China's Constitution allows non-agricultural individual labourers to exist legally, at the same time it stresses the necessity for the state to supervise and restrict them, stipulating that they may engage in individual labour involving no exploitation of others, within the limits permitted by law and under unified arrangement by neighbourhood organizations in cities and towns or by production teams in rural people's communes. At the same time, these individual labourers should be given socialist education and be actively guided on to the road of socialist collectivization step by step so as to close up the loopholes small production affords to the engendering of capitalism. The new Constitution also provides that people's commune members may farm small plots for their personal needs and engage in limited household side-line production. The stipulations of the Constitution adhere to the socialist orientation and path and at the same time embody the Party's rural economic policies for the present stage. These provisions take into consideration the needs of the state and the collective as well as the personal interests of the commune members. Thus the principle of adherence to socialism is integrated with the necessary flexibility, and this is conducive to consolidating the worker-peasant alliance and developing the socialist economy. All this has nothing in common with the fallacies advocated by swindlers like Liu Shao-chi and Lin Biao who at one moment preached the fixing of farm output quotas for individual households with each on its own and then the next moment preached the abolition of farm plots for the personal needs of commune members.

Continue the Revolution in the Ideological Field

To restrict bourgeois right and consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat, it is also necessary to continue the revolution in the ideological field. After the

bourgeoisie has been toppled politically and economically, it still stubbornly uses the exploiting classes' "hereditary domain" in the ideological and cultural spheres to wildly propagate the idea of bourgeois right, spread the ideology of the decadent, moribund classes and corrupt the proletariat and other working people. A part of the working class and of the Party membership, personnel in state and other organs all could take to the bourgeois style of life. This phenomenon closely ties in with the fierce struggle between the two classes and the two ideologies in the ideological field. The new Constitution requires that state organizations and state personnel must earnestly study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. It also stipulates: "The proletariat must exercise all-round dictatorship over the bourgeoisie in the superstructure, including all spheres of culture. Culture and education, literature and art, physical education, health work and scientific research work must all serve proletarian politics, serve the workers, peasants and soldiers, and be combined with productive labour." This is of far-reaching significance in guaranteeing that the proletariat defeats the bourgeoisie and Marxism defeats revisionism in the superstructure and in the sphere of ideology.

Lenin pointed out that the period of socialism is **"a period of struggle between dying capitalism and nascent communism."** (*Economics and Politics in the Era of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.*) While they are growing, socialist new things will inevitably meet with sabotage by the class enemies and stiff resistance from the old traditional concepts and force of habit. Therefore, the function of state power and the law, two main components of the socialist superstructure, is to follow the laws of historical development and hasten the demise of capitalist factors and promote the growth of communist factors. Over the past 20 years or so, under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, particularly since the start of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, large numbers of socialist new things have emerged on the various fronts following fierce struggles between the two classes, the two roads and the two lines. These socialist new things are conducive to reducing the three major differences between workers and peasants, between town and country and between mental and manual labour, and to restricting and reducing bourgeois right. They represent the direction of historical development. By writing these new things which are of tremendous vitality into our new Constitution and affirming them in the fundamental charter will more effectively promote the vigorous growth of these socialist new things, help consolidate and develop the socialist economic base and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Struggle Against Hegemony

MORE than 1,000 representatives from over 130 countries and regions as well as a number of organizations including national-liberation organizations attended the U.N. World Conference of the International Women's Year from June 19 to July 2 in Mexico City. It was the first conference of such a scale ever held by the United Nations to discuss the problems of women. A complicated struggle was unfolded at the conference around problems concerning the road to women's emancipation and the present line of action.

The two superpowers resorted to all kinds of intrigues and schemes to lead astray women who form half of the world population. One superpower propagated the "non-political nature" of the women movement, while the other tried its best to peddle its trash of real tension and sham detente, real arms expansion and sham disarmament. Their means are different, but their aim is the same, namely, to strangle the struggle of the people all over the world against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism, and to divert the attention of women from this struggle. They wanted women to focus only on the struggle for equal rights and positions with men, so much so that they even turn a blind eye to the harsh fact of stepped-up contention between the two superpowers for world hegemony, especially the policy of social-imperialism the Brezhnev clique is pushing, but indulge in the fond dream of "detente" and "disarmament," and fancy "peace" being bestowed by the two hegemonic powers—the Soviet Union and the United States.

Immediately after her arrival in Mexico City on June 17, head of the U.S. Delegation mouthed such nonsense as women being discriminated against under any social system, in an attempt to set the tune for the conference and to restrict the discussion to women's rights. In the general debate on June 20, head of the U.S. Delegation advertised that the two "fundamental targets" of the International Women's Year should be to fight for equal rights with men and the participation of women on equal terms in the development of nations. She also said that the United States would submit a draft declaration on "equality and development" to counter the one prepared by the "Group of 77" for the conference's deliberation. Later on, the U.S. Delegation took the lead in submitting a draft declaration to the first committee of the conference and called for priority in its adoption. But through the efforts of the delegations of third world countries, the first committee adopted by an overwhelming majority the Declaration of Mexico drafted by the

"Group of 77." Only then did the U.S. Delegation feel obliged to withdraw its draft declaration.

The performance of Brezhnev's revisionist clique was even more revealing. Immediately after the arrival of the Soviet Delegation on June 16, its head made a speech flaunting the "peace" banner. The whole delegation and the Soviet diplomatic mission in Mexico were busy trying to exert influence on the conference. At the informal consultations among the participating countries before the opening of the conference, the Soviet Delegation suggested a "dialogue" with the "Group of 77" on the conference declaration. It wanted the integration of the draft declaration of a "socialist country" with that of the "Group of 77." But this Soviet scheme fell flat. The Soviet Delegation then canvassed for "voluntary assistance" to conference rapporteurs in drafting and revising the document.

When the general debate began, the Soviet Delegation made undisguised attempts to bring the conference into its own orbit. Head of the delegation repeated the shopworn trash of "detente" and "disarmament," prated about "detente" having replaced "cold war," and even babbled about "disarmament" being the "essential condition" for making the process of "detente" stable and "irreversible." Her speech reeked of all the "disarmament" trash of the Brezhnev clique.

Following the Soviet representative, the heads of the Byelorussian, Ukrainian and some other delegations also harped on "peace," "detente" and "disarmament." Members of the Soviet Delegation could be seen trotting in and out of the conference hall, giving orders to Soviet-controlled delegations, instructing them to table this or that motion. The waving of the Soviet baton was quite conspicuous.

Delegations from many third world countries and several national-liberation organizations gave tit for tat in the struggle against the two superpowers. During informal consultations prior to the conference, Egypt and Syria proposed, with the active support of other third world countries, that the title of a section "the involvement of women in strengthening international peace and eliminating racism and racial discrimination," which was subject to deliberation by the plenary session, be changed to "the involvement of women in strengthening international peace and eliminating racism, racial discrimination, alien domination and the acquisition of territories by force." This created a favourable condition for the conference to issue a resounding call for struggles against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the conference, President Luis Echeverria of Mexico, the host country, pointed out emphatically that the struggle for women's rights must be linked closely with the actions to oppose colonialism, foreign domination, racial discrimination, interference in other countries' internal affairs, the threat and use of force against other countries, as well as with the struggles to prevent violation of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the peoples. He also stressed that a new international economic order must be based on equality and justice. Similar views and demands were also expressed by representatives from many third world countries throughout the conference.

The living reality had enabled the representatives from many third world countries to come to this conclusion: the present situation and the tasks of struggle differed not only from the picture dished up by the U.S. representative but also far from the deceptive propaganda of the Soviet representative. A representative of the O.A.U. (Organization of African Unity) said: "Equality is out of the question for us unless our African continent is freed from colonial occupation, racial discrimination and apartheid in all its forms" and "provided that the people of other countries are still suffering from oppression, and some parts on the African continent are still suffering from colonial enslavement and foreign economic plunder, we have no peace to speak of." The Yugoslav representative pointed out: "The international situation was becoming more and more acute. The threat of military intervention and

subversion by imperialist and neo-colonialist forces against the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and sovereign right of states is becoming more and more frequent." "The intensification of the armament race, occupation of the territories taken by force, interference in the internal affairs of other countries are continuing." The Peruvian representative pointed out bluntly that the ambitious desires of imperialism and hegemonism should be opposed. Both at meetings and plenary sessions, the representatives of Albania and China also vigorously exposed and repudiated the hegemonic behaviour of the two superpowers, especially the plots of the Soviet social-imperialists.

Through debates and struggles, representatives of a number of third world countries were able to see more and more clearly the sham-disarmament plot of Soviet social-imperialism. The representative of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania put it well when she said that the talk of the superpowers about disarmament was only humbug. She pointed out that the arms race continued unabated while disarmament talks rattled on. "They said that they were for peace, but actually they were for the destruction of the people, she noted.

Inside and outside the conference hall, representatives of many third world countries and national-liberation movements were united by their hatred for imperialism, colonialism, racism and hegemonism, by the

(Continued on p. 19.)

Middle East

A New Round of Soviet-U.S. Contention

Starting anew, Washington is trying to continue its exclusive role in a "peaceful solution" to the Middle East issue. Moscow, on the other hand, has been overhauling its tactics in an effort to snatch the initiative from its opponent, once again showing its true features of sham support but real betrayal in its relations with the Arab people.

A NEW round of contention for hegemony in the Middle East between the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, is on.

Since the end of the October 1973 Middle East war, the two have been trying hard to seize the initiative for a so-called "peaceful solution" to the Middle East question, one seeking its "step-by-step solution" and the other favouring its Geneva conference approach. Each has schemed to keep the other out and augment its own influence in the region.

Immediately after Kissinger's "shuttle diplomacy" flop last March, Washington made it clear that it would "reassess" its Middle East policy, which was meant, in actual fact, to urge the parties concerned to reconsider their policies, thus enabling the United States to start afresh, continue to have an exclusive role in a "peaceful solution" in the Middle East and widen its influence there.

Following its defeat in Indochina, the United States with its hands now free has managed to strengthen its

position in its rivalry with the Soviet Union in both Europe and the Middle East. Early in June, U.S. President Ford personally held talks with Egyptian President Sadat in Salzburg, Austria. Back in Washington, Ford and Kissinger talked with Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and also Syrian Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Khaddam. The United States, Ford announced, would oppose any stagnation or stalemate in the Middle East situation. Referring at a press conference to the chances for resumption of Egyptian-Israeli negotiations, Kissinger said: "We will support whichever approach seems most promising" and "a trip (by himself to the area) is not excluded."

The Soviet Union too has overhauled its tactics in the light of U.S. activities. On the one hand, it has launched large-scale diplomatic campaigns to try to seize the initiative for a "peaceful solution" to the Middle East question. On the other, it is energetically seeking new "footings" in Arab countries to bolster its position in the rivalry with the United States.

Since April, leaders of Iraq, Syria, Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organization (P.L.O.) have been invited to visit Moscow. Using both stick and carrot, Moscow has tried hard to impose its will on others so as to have more say on the Middle East question. In addition, it has hatched schemes in dealings with Israel at meetings in several places. It was reported that two Soviet "emissaries" who secretly visited Israel in April said the Soviet Union would not insist on the participation of the P.L.O. as an independent delegation at the Geneva conference, provided Israel would agree to the inclusion of the P.L.O. representatives in the Syrian, Jordanian or Arab League delegations. As *The Times* of London put it, the Soviet envoys' mission was to urge the Israeli leaders to "renounce the United States' step-by-step approach to a Middle East settlement." Moscow, moreover, repeatedly stresses the guarantee of Israel's existence and security. Arab public opinion has pointed out that it is the Palestinian and other Arab people, not the Israelis, whose existence and security must be guaranteed and this can only be the result of negotiations, never the prerequisite. The treacherous nature of the Soviet statement is all the more evident, considering the fact that large areas of Arab territory are under Israeli occupation and the Palestinian people are to this day still deprived of their rights. This new disclosure of the Soviet Union's scheme of sham support but real betrayal of the Arab people in general and the Palestinian people in particular has opened their eyes even wider. Moscow thus failed to achieve its anticipated objectives in the secret talks with Israel.

The men in the Kremlin have lately stopped their high-sounding publicity on the Geneva conference. Earlier they were all for the conference working out a "complete solution" to the Middle East question as a counter to U.S. "quiet diplomacy" and the "step-by-step solution," proclaiming that the conference was the "only way" and the "best place" for an "overall solution" of the Middle East question. In February,

Gromyko hastened to the Middle East before Kissinger got there, insisting on the "immediate" reopening of the Geneva conference "no later than the end of February or the beginning of March in any case." But when Kissinger's "shuttle diplomacy" failed, Moscow suddenly began stressing the need for "serious preparation" for the conference and lately has dropped it altogether. The Western press points out that Moscow, not wishing to shoulder "responsibility" in case of failure at the Geneva conference, is therefore shelving "plans for Mideast parleys." This behaviour on the part of the rulers in the Kremlin again shows that their clamour for the Geneva conference was aimed only at foiling Kissinger's "step-by-step solution." What they are interested in is not a "solution" to the Middle East problem but some cheap propaganda to swindle the Arab people.

The Soviet Union has now changed to a flank attack. This is because it hopes to turn the tables in its rivalry with the United States for a "peaceful settlement" of the Middle East problem and at the same time meet the needs of its contention with the United States in Europe and the Mediterranean. Kosygin's visit to northern Africa in May was one noteworthy step to apply this strategy. A Western news agency pointed out that it represented "a major development" in Moscow's Mediterranean and Middle East policy and that it indicated the Kremlin's intention to "seek new friends among the Mediterranean and Arab countries, especially in view of Egyptian President Anwar el Sadat's evident unwillingness to be absorbed into the Soviet sphere of influence." A Malaysian paper noted that this Soviet move was an attempt to "establish a military base" in the strategic Mediterranean countries. "It not only extends the Soviet influence in the Middle East but also is a great help to its naval tactics around the world." The same paper pointed out that another Soviet "intention" was to "sow dissension among the Arab countries."

At present, both Moscow and Washington are studying the situation closely, putting out feelers everywhere and thinking of what to do in a new and ever fiercer round of contention. As a result of the intensified contention between the two superpowers, the Middle East situation has become more tense and unstable.

But the fact is that neither the "reassessment" advertised by Washington nor the Geneva conference prated by Moscow, neither the "quiet diplomacy" and "step-by-step solution" nor the so-called "overall solution" at the Geneva conference can really solve the Middle East problem. Soviet and U.S. aggression and contention in the Middle East have enabled the Arab people to see more clearly the real hegemonic features of the two superpowers, especially that superpower which claims to be their "natural ally." The key to the complete solution of the Middle East problem rests on the fighting unity of the Arab people. As Moscow and Washington escalate their contention in the Middle East, the Arab people will launch their struggle against hegemonism on an ever larger scale.

Great Changes

by Our Correspondents Hsi Chang-hao
and Kao Yuan-mei

IN social development Tibet has hurdled several centuries in the short span since the region's liberation in 1951. Tibet is now in the period of socialist revolution and construction. Talking with us about the earth-shaking changes there, comrades of Tibetan or Han nationality were unanimous in pointing out that they constituted a great victory for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and the Party's national policy.

How did the Communist Party of China and the People's Government lead the Tibetan people from the dark and barbarous feudal serfdom of the past to the bright and happy life of today?

Peaceful Liberation

When New China was founded in 1949, Tibet's million serfs were still groaning under imperialist aggression and oppression by the serf-owning class. The Party and Chairman Mao showed deep concern for the Tibetan compatriots. Chairman Mao pointed out at the time that the Tibetan people love the motherland and oppose foreign aggression, that they are dissatisfied with the policies of the reactionary Kuomintang government and want to become a member of the big family which is New China — a unified and prosperous country in which all nationalities are equal and work in co-operation, and that the Central People's Government and the Chinese People's Liberation Army can surely meet this aspiration of the Tibetan people. Chairman Mao's instruction expressed the common desire and determination of the people of all nationalities in China, including the Tibetan people. In January 1950, the Central People's Government notified the then local government of Tibet to send its representatives to Peking to negotiate measures for the peaceful liberation of Tibet.

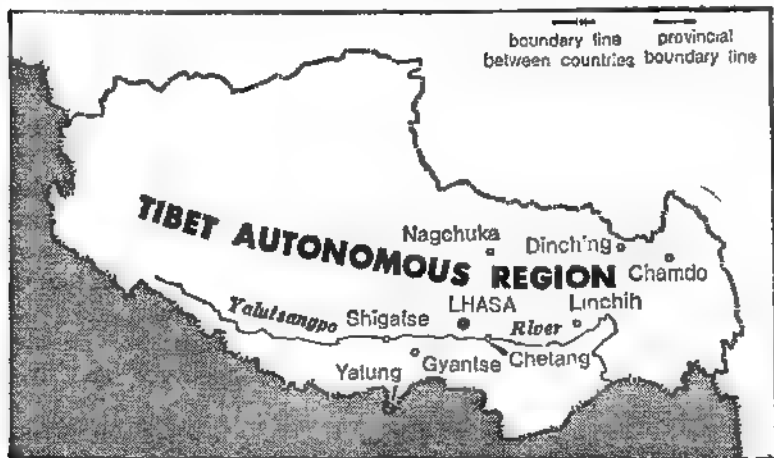
The Tibetan local authorities, however, went against the will of the broad masses of Tibetan people. Instigated by the imperialists and foreign reactionaries, they rejected the central authorities' call for peaceful liberation. The delegation they had sent out for negotiations delayed its journey to Peking and stayed abroad shopping for foreign help. They also massed troops in and around Nagchuka and Chamdo, strategic towns in northern and eastern Tibet, in an attempt to prevent the People's Liberation Army from entering the region.

To bring about an agreement for the peaceful liberation of Tibet at an early date, the Central People's Government in July 1950 sent Living Buddha Geda, a Tibetan patriotic personage and Vice-Chairman of the former Sikang provincial government, on a mission to Tibet to open discussions. He ran into obstruction immediately after arriving in Chamdo. There he was poisoned by an imperialist agent and elements in the service of a foreign country. They burnt his body to cover up the crime.

The Central People's Government then ordered the P.L.A. to enter Tibet to emancipate the Tibetan compatriots and unify the mainland part of our motherland. In October 1950, the P.L.A. crossed the Kinsha River, the boundary between Szechuan Province and the Tibet region, and marched on Chamdo. The army was warmly welcomed all along the way by the Tibetan people who took on the task of organizing yak-transport and stretcher teams to speed its advance. In November that year, the P.L.A. liberated Chamdo and the Chamdo area, having put out of action large numbers of local reactionary troops. This shattered the dream of the reactionary clique of the upper social strata to put up an armed resistance.

In April 1951 the delegation sent by the Tibetan local authorities finally arrived in Peking for negotiations. On May 23, 1951, the Agreement of the Central People's Government and the Local Government of Tibet on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet was concluded.

The main contents of the agreement included: The local government of Tibet shall unite the Tibetan people to drive out the imperialist forces and actively assist the People's Liberation Army to enter Tibet and consolidate national defence; under the unified leadership of the Central People's Government, the Tibetan peo-



ple have the right to exercise regional national autonomy; the Tibetan troops shall be reorganized by stages into the People's Liberation Army and shall become a part of the national defence forces of the People's Republic of China; the local government of Tibet shall carry out social reforms of its own accord; the central authorities will not alter the existing political system in Tibet and officials of various ranks shall hold office as usual; the religious beliefs, customs and habits of the Tibetan people shall be respected; economy and culture in Tibet shall be developed step by step and the people's livelihood shall be improved gradually in accordance with the actual conditions in Tibet; the Central People's Government shall conduct the centralized handling of all external affairs of the area of Tibet. Altogether there were 17 articles, which was why the agreement was also called the 17-point agreement.

In accordance with the agreement, P.L.A. units entered Lhasa on October 26, 1951. More than 20,000 people of all nationalities from all walks of life attended the city's grand rally of welcome. On February 10, 1952, the Tibet Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army was set up in Lhasa.

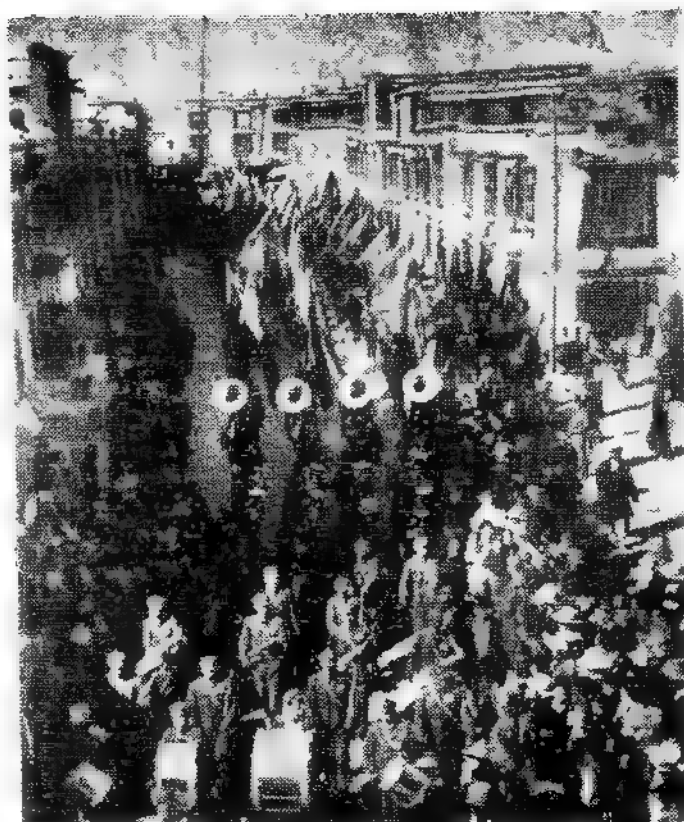
Traitorous Clique Sought Self-Destruction

After the peaceful liberation of Tibet, the Central People's Government strictly abided by the agreement. It did not make any change in Tibet's political system, and Dalai's status and authority remained the same as before. Clerical and secular officials at all levels carried on with their duties as usual. As to those officials who had collaborated with the imperialists, the central authorities did not punish them for their past misdeeds but allowed them to retain their posts so long as they showed willingness to sever connections with the imperialists. The Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region was set up in April 1956 to establish regional national autonomy step by step. Construction work, such as building highways, factories, farms and hospitals and developing trade, was carried out after full consultation with personages of the upper social strata.

Representing the interests of the imperialists and the big reactionary serf-owners, the reactionary clique of the upper social strata in Tibet with Dalai as its head feigned compliance with the agreement while persistently obstructing and disrupting its implementation.

They fomented trouble in Lhasa when the Tibetan Military Area Command was established. They persecuted those peasants and herdsmen who took part in construction work, accepted state loans, or were treated by Han doctors who had entered Tibet. They abused and manhandled the P.L.A. fighters and working staff. Owing to their obstruction, preparatory work for setting up the autonomous region made little progress and the reorganization of Tibetan troops and reform of the social system could not be carried out.

In the light of conditions at that time, the central authorities decided to slow down the pace of social reform in Tibet. Chairman Mao pointed out: "Accord-



Tibetan people line the streets to welcome P.L.A. units entering Lhasa in 1951.

ing to the seventeen-point agreement reached between the Central People's Government and the local government of Tibet, the reform of the social system must be carried out, but the timing can only be decided by the great majority of the people of Tibet and their leading public figures when they consider it practicable, and one should not be impatient. It has now been decided not to proceed with democratic reforms in Tibet during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan*." (On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People.)

Despite the patience displayed by the central authorities, the reactionary clique of the Tibetan upper social strata persisted in its opposition to the 17-point agreement and clamoured that "there would never be any reform."

Colluding with the imperialists and foreign reactionaries, the clique instigated a number of big reactionary serf-owners in the Sikang (now part of Szechuan Province) and Tibet areas to organize an armed rebellion in certain regions east, north and south of the Yalu-tsangpo River to oppose the Central People's Government and betray the motherland. Beginning in May and June 1958, it instructed rebellious bandits to launch attacks in the Chamdo, Dinching, Nagchuka and Loka areas. The Central People's Government had already detected the clique's sinister manoeuvres and had

* The Second Five-Year Plan was carried out in the years 1958-62.

warned it time and again to assume responsibility for curbing these activities in the hope that ultimately it would realize its error and mend its ways. However, it mistook the patience and magnanimity of the Central People's Government as a sign of weakness. Instead of repenting, the clique stepped up its conspiratorial activities in betrayal of the motherland.

After mustering a large reactionary armed force in Lhasa, the traitorous clique on March 10, 1959 openly scrapped the 17-point agreement and proclaimed the so-called "independence of Tibet." When night came on March 19 the clique launched an all-out attack on units of the People's Liberation Army stationed in Lhasa. Having reached the end of its forbearance, the P.L.A. under the Tibet Military Area Command was ordered on March 20 to put down the rebellion of the criminal traitorous clique. After two days' battle, the rebellion in Lhasa city was suppressed. Rebellions in other areas also were quickly quelled.

Of Tibet's 1.2 million population, only a handful turned rebellious bandits and most of these had been tricked and intimidated into joining the rebels. The masses of the people in Tibet, including many patriotic personages in the upper and middle social strata, loved the motherland, supported the Central People's Government and opposed the rebellion. They took part in rallies to condemn the traitorous clique. Some were killed by the rebellious bandits. The Tibetan people actively assisted the P.L.A. to put down the rebellion, supplying information, carrying stretchers and transporting grain and fodder for the P.L.A. and working as guides. Some fought shoulder to shoulder with P.L.A. men to wipe out the rebels.

While in Tibet we interviewed Comrade Sodnam, vice-director of the political department of a P.L.A. unit. He had the look of staunchness about him.

Sodnam recounted how news of the rebellion had made his blood boil. His grandfather had toiled all his life for a manorial lord until he was 75 and, when too sick to work, he was thrown out by the owner. Later he died of sickness and hunger. His father also had been a slave. Once, he was savagely beaten up by the manorial lord; he fled and was heard of no more. Sodnam himself began working as a slave when he was seven. After the peaceful liberation of Tibet, he took part in the construction of the Lhasa airport where he came into contact with P.L.A. men and other Han personnel. He gradually came to see Tibet's bright

future as well as his own. How could he allow all this to be taken away? He joined the P.L.A. to stamp out the rebellion. He captured four rebels while searching for them together with his comrades-in-arms.

"The rebels committed rape, arson and murder and all kinds of evil against the people wherever they went," Sodnam recalled. "On one occasion we marched the whole day and it wasn't till evening that we called a halt. While we were preparing to take a rest, we heard a woman crying in a yak-skin tent. When we went to look, we learnt that rebels had arrived during the day and had gouged out her husband's eyes and raped her. We were so enraged we forgot the day's fatigue and, without resting, went off after the rebels in the direction she pointed to. . . ."

One day, while the P.L.A. was breaking up the rebellion in the Loka area, a herdsman named Kalzang reported that a group of rebels had come at night to his tent to demand butter and *tsamba*. He said they dared not show themselves in the daytime and they might be hiding in the nearby gullies. Guided by him, the P.L.A. men found some of the bandits and wiped them out. In the battle a bullet pierced Kalzang's Tibetan robe but he stayed with the P.L.A. fighters throughout.

The rest of the rebels in this group had hidden in another gully. Hearing the gunfire, they stealthily came out to find out what was happening. When they discovered that the others had been wiped out, they became very alarmed. When night fell, they sneaked into Kalzang's tent to inquire. Kalzang advised the bandits to give themselves up. So two of them approached a P.L.A. unit and when they learnt that they would really be treated leniently if they laid down their arms, they lost all their unfounded fear and brought the five other bandits along to surrender.

The defeat of the armed rebellion of the Dalai traitorous clique marked the beginning of a new chapter in the history of Tibet. Contrary to the wishes of the reactionary clique of the upper social strata to disrupt the motherland and drag Tibet backward, it had lifted a rock only to drop it on its own feet. Its armed rebellion speeded up its own destruction, but the unification of the motherland was further consolidated and the democratization of Tibet promoted. A new life dawned for the Tibetan people.

(To be continued.)

(Continued from p. 15.)

fighting will to win and safeguard national independence, national economic rights and interests, social progress and women's rights, and by confidence in the victory of their just cause. It was their unity in struggle that thwarted the attempts of Soviet social-imperialism and U.S. imperialism to control the conference, guaranteed the final adoption of the Declaration of Mexico by the conference which made the declaration its principal document.

The struggle at the World Conference of the International Women's Year was a round of the current worldwide struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism and also a reflection of the struggle on the problems of women. The conference came to an end, but the struggle will go on. The people are fully convinced that the awakening women and people of the third world countries will press on with their struggle till a new victory is won.

(Hsinhua Correspondent)

ROUND THE WORLD

LAOS

Statement of Patriotic Front

The Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front issued a statement on June 27 concerning the new situation in Laos. The statement said: "The current situation in our country is changing drastically. The life-and-death struggle between the revolutionary forces of our people and the counter-revolutionary forces of the traitors is going on very fiercely."

It recalled that as a result of the sabotage by the U.S. imperialists and the Lao ultra-Rightists, peace in Laos was menaced, realization of national concord was obstructed, and the people in Vientiane-controlled areas were suffering from hunger and hardships and deprived of any rights. The masses of the people, police and soldiers have no alternative but to rise in struggle.

The statement noted: "For that reason, the Lao Patriotic Front holds that the uprising of students, workers, peasants, armymen, police, functionaries and other people to abolish the old administrative and military apparatus, an instrument of U.S. neo-colonialism in our country, and to seize power into their hands is a very correct and legitimate action."

It said: "Sharing the assessment of the situation by the Lao people of all walks of life, the Lao Patriotic Front affirms that the ultra-Rightist reactionaries who have fled to foreign countries and are closely colluding with the ultra-reactionaries in the country are the No. 1 and the most dangerous enemy of our fatherland that must be duly punished by the people."

"The Lao Patriotic Front (L.P.F.) wished that those in the Provisional National Union Government (P.N.U.G.), with Prince Souvanna Phouma as Premier, and in the National Coalition Political Council, with Prince Souphanouvong as President, who are still faithful to the interests of the homeland and the people should realize clearly their heavy responsibility before

history and be determined to join the people in the struggle against the enemy of the nation and the Lao reactionaries who are now taking refuge in foreign countries or still hiding inside the country and all their associates."

"With regard to the United States," the statement said, it must bear responsibility for the war of aggression it has waged in Laos for many years. "The L.P.F. holds that the P.N.U.G. should establish equal relations with the U.S. Government as it has done with other governments. But the U.S. Government must end involvement and intervention in the internal affairs of Laos, withdraw all U.S. military personnel from the kingdom and dissolve at once the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and other spy organizations in Laos."

It added: "The L.P.F. calls on the people of all strata and nationalities, patriotic officers, armymen and police to co-ordinate actions with the patriotic forces, promote and strengthen the political struggle in the towns and countryside and take all suitable measures to attain the following major objectives: Smash all the wicked schemes of the enemy of the nation, get rid of all reactionaries and traitors who are now hiding inside the country, and reorganize the army in conformity with the new situation. We should step up our activities to implement the 18-point political programme with a view to building a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral, united and prosperous Kingdom of Laos, thus actively contributing to the safeguarding of peace in Indochina, Southeast Asia and the rest of the world."

SOUTH VIET NAM

New Situation in Revolution and Production

The liberated south Vietnamese people are actively setting up local revolutionary administrations, rebuilding their homeland and developing industrial and agricultural production.

People's revolutionary committees have been established in every ward and district in Saigon-Gia Dinh City. At the same time, revolutionary mass organizations have been quickly extended.

Many important highways are now open to normal traffic. Up to June 22, there had been a total of 12,000 long-distance buses going every day from Saigon-Gia Dinh City to the provinces in Eastern Nam Bo and Central Trung Bo.

Such railway lines as between Da Nang and Hue, and between Qui Nhon and Khanh Phuoc and Van Canh have been repaired in Central Trung Bo. They cover a distance of 350 kilometres and make up one-third the total length of railways in Central Trung Bo.

Under the leadership of the revolutionary administrations, the peasants in Binh Phuoc Province reclaimed 13,000 hectares of land from March to early June with the result that this year's acreage under crops is double that of last year's. In Thu Duc District on the outskirts of Saigon-Gia Dinh City, more than 100,000 villagers are working hard to level the drill grounds forcibly built by the enemy on farmland, reclaim wasteland and expand cultivated area.

Liberation army commanders and fighters, functionaries and students also go to the countryside to help the peasants open up wasteland. In Quang Tri Province, liberation army units pitch into the campaign to remove mines and reclaim wasteland. In the five days ending June 15, they dismantled over 4,000 mines and other explosive devices to bring 13 hectares of wasteland under cultivation.

By June 16, several thousand hectares of land had been distributed by revolutionary administrations at all levels in Saigon-Gia Dinh City to peasants who had returned to their homes on the city outskirts.

In Ca Mau, Kien Tuong and Bac Lieu Provinces, the people's revolutionary committees and liberated peasant associations also have distributed thousands of hectares of land and large quantities of grain, seed-rice and livestock to peasants who

returned, enabling them to restore farm production rapidly.

On the industrial front, the workers who defended the factories and machines on the eve of liberation are now actively rehabilitating production so as to increase output constantly.

Incomplete statistics show that by June 16, a total of 384 big and small factories in Saigon-Gia Dinh City alone had restored production. So had 21 factories in Bien Hoa industrial area, northeast of Saigon-Gia Dinh City.

"OCTOBER" (FINLAND)

Behind the European Security Conference

An article in the No. 7 issue of *October*, organ of the Marxist-Leninist Groups of Finland, exposes the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, for intensifying their contention in Europe under the smokescreen of the European security conference.

The article pointed out: "Hardly any concrete results have been achieved at the European security conference and at the talks on force reduction." The two superpowers "did not even intend to discuss at any phase of the conference which country or countries threaten the security in Europe." "Each of the two superpowers continues to increase its armament in Europe."

At the conference, it noted, small and medium-sized countries have tried to win approval for a stipulation prohibiting the use of military force against another state and demanded the reduction of the superpowers' Mediterranean fleets. Such concrete demands, however, received no response from the superpowers. The Soviet Union has, on the contrary, wanted to reserve the right to carry out in future "normalization" campaigns like the occupation of Czechoslovakia.

The article said: "From the very beginning, the superpowers have monopolized the conference on security and co-operation in Europe. At the preparatory meeting in Helsinki, the Romanian delegate was even deprived of the chance to speak when he demanded equality among

delegations. Of late, the E.E.C. countries have also been irritated by the fact that the superpowers are making bargains over questions in dispute between themselves, without listening to others."

The article pointed out: The two superpowers' military strength has surpassed their own defence needs. Their words and deeds are in glaring contradiction. Their deeds show "how far away genuine peace and detente are from Europe."

FRANCE

Against Superpowers' Rivalry In Mediterranean

France has become increasingly uneasy over the intense Soviet-U.S. rivalry in the Mediterranean Sea.

At a meeting chaired by President Giscard d'Estaing last December, the French Defence Council decided to transfer the aircraft carriers *Clemenceau* and *Foch* as well as the missile-cruiser *Colbert* from their base in Brest on the Atlantic Coast to Toulon to reinforce the French Mediterranean Fleet.

While inspecting the Mediterranean Fleet last April, French Defence Minister Yvon Bourges said: "The Mediterranean will henceforth become a zone of principal action for France, and the command in Toulon will play a special role." He emphasized that the Mediterranean is "a zone of the world where France has a role to play in preventing it from falling into the hands of others, in particular, the two big powers which are extra-Mediterranean."

The French have taken particular notice of Soviet activities in the Mediterranean Sea. As revealed by the French paper *Le Monde*, there usually are 60-65 Soviet warships and 45 U.S. warships in the Mediterranean. In April, the Soviet Union conducted a global naval exercise. Apart from the Soviet Mediterranean Fleet, large numbers of warships of its Black Sea Fleet also sailed into the Mediterranean for exercises. The warships of the Soviet Mediterranean Fleet even flagrantly made their way through the sea north of Corsica Island, i.e., between the French mainland and Corsica. In his recent article in *Revue de Defense*

Nationale, Jacques Menoncourt, a French expert on the Mediterranean questions, denounced the Soviet Union for stubbornly stepping into the tsar's shoes in the Mediterranean. In the face of the grave threat from the two superpowers, France held from April 21 to May 7 large-scale military manoeuvres, an important part of which was an exercise in the Mediterranean. Its objective was "to examine how to protect the Mediterranean's coastal regions which are under threat from the sea," "to test the naval fleets' action programme in a critical environment as well as preparation and execution of counter-attack measures."

The "detente" rhetoric of the Soviet revisionist chieftains cannot muffle the rumble of Soviet naval guns during exercises in the Mediterranean. As the French journal *Valeurs Actuelles* pointed out, "It is natural that France desires peace. But though the tree longs for stillness, the wind continues to blow." The vigilance of the European peoples is increasingly sharpening and fewer and fewer people are being taken in.

MALAYSIA

"Asian Security System" — A Trap

The Malaysian paper *Kuang Hua Yit Pao* carried an article on June 16 entitled "Asian Security System and Soviet Ambitions." The article revealed that the real aim of the Soviet Union for setting up an "Asian security system" is "to realize its ambitions in its contention with the other superpower for hegemony in Asia."

It said: Many events show that the real aim of the Soviet Union for setting up an "Asian security system" is, under the signboard of "defending Asian security," to consolidate its vested interests and to intensify penetration and expansion in the Asian region, and thereby realize its ambitions in its contention with the other superpower for hegemony in Asia. The Soviet Union once openly said that by setting up an "Asian security system" it wants to "better replace" U.S. influence in

(Continued on p. 23.)

ON THE HOME FRONT

Dyke Construction In Wuhan

WUHAN city, capital of Hupeh Province, is located in a low-lying area with many lakes and streams at the confluence of the Yangtze and Hanchiang Rivers. In the absence of well-built dykes before liberation it was prone to floods and waterlogging. A serious flood which occurred in 1931 inundated the streets for 100 days, causing heavy losses to the people's lives and property.

In 1954 after liberation, the city was struck by the biggest flood in a century in the Yangtze River. The water level was 1.45 metres higher than in 1931. Led by the Party, more than 200,000 people battled the mounting river round the clock for over 100 days. By reinforcing the dykes to hold back waters which had reached the height of one- or two-storeyed buildings, they enabled the city's socialist construction to go on as usual.

Now a complete system of dykes built in the course of 20 years' continuous hard work fends off floods. Key sections have been raised and strengthened to withstand the highest water level like that of 1954.

Pounding waves now dash against banks surfaced with rock and skirt along newly built concrete breakwaters. Hidden weak points in the dyke have been removed and the dangerous sections reinforced. The dykes have been doubled in length and lined with trees, while those inherited from old China have undergone all-round improvement. All this has helped Wuhan tide over six big floods of the Yangtze and seven crests of the Hanchiang River since 1954.

Great improvements have been made in drainage. With a number of pumping stations built in the past two decades, it is possible to drain off more than 300 cubic metres of water per second, as against less

than one cubic metre by only two pumping stations in Hankow before liberation.

While organizing professional contingents, the city relies mainly on the masses of the people to tame the river. Since 1970, more than a million volunteers have joined in the work to speed up Wuhan's dyke-building.

Air-Cleaning Techniques Developed

THROUGH the use of modern air-cleaning techniques, many industrial enterprises in our country ensure dust-free environments up to the highest international standards in their shops. This has promoted production.

These measures include the installation of filters for removing dust suspended in the air of a building or room to provide a dust-free environment. Their adoption has resulted in much higher efficiency in the production of semi-conductors, large integrated circuits, optical instruments and a number of precision products, helped reduce the number of rejects and ensured dust-free surroundings for turning out new products with exacting requirements. The air-cleaning techniques are now being widely used in precision machine-building, national defence industries and the production of high purity materials as well as for medical and scientific purposes.

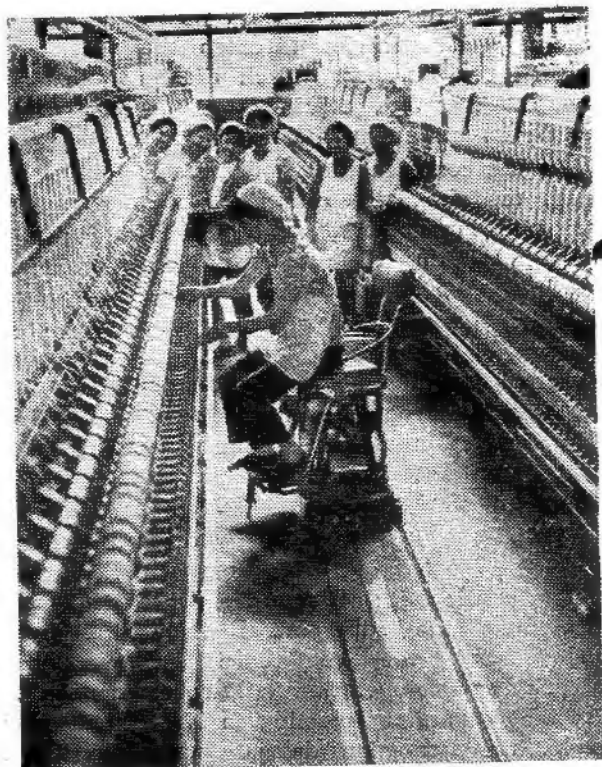
China did not go in for air-cleaning techniques until the early 60s, when researchers and workers began to develop them on their own by starting from scratch, combining their efforts and learning in the

course of doing. They thought up ingenious methods to make the necessary instruments and equipment for their research.

Our country now has modern air-cleaning techniques based on our own equipment, procedures and testing methods. Also by relying on the masses to sum up their experiences, we have gradually evolved a set of practices in this field based on China's own conditions. By installing air-cleaning facilities only in those parts of a factory building as required by the relevant technical processes, it is possible to build new projects or renovate old ones at low cost and high speed.

Electric Carts for Textile Workers

WOMEN workers in white overalls are sitting in power-driven carts tending their spindles or looms in many cotton mills. Light and easy to operate, these carts move back and forth and go fast or slow smoothly and safely. This new device is aptly described as the "Happiness Chair" by women textile workers whose labour intensity has thus been reduced.



Woman textile worker in electric cart at her spindles.

Looking after their machines on foot had been the usual practice for textile workers since the modern textile industry came into being. According to estimates, a weaver has to walk some 15 kilometres eight hours a day, bringing the distance covered in eight years equal to the earth's circumference.

Was using a mechanized device to replace walking possible? This was out of the question in the old days when profit-hungry capitalists forced workers to toil a dozen hours a day in sweltering workshops and the complete absence of labour protection caused frequent accidents. With the continuous development of production in socialist New China, the People's Government has annually allocated special funds to improve working conditions for women textile workers, which include better ventilation facilities, more effective ways to lower temperature and a variety of new devices and measures to reduce labour intensity.

The electric cart is now being popularized in some cotton mills in Peking, Shanghai and other cities.

Large Hobbing Machines

LARGE-SIZED hobbing machines important for developing the metallurgical, mining, petroleum and machine-building industries had never been produced in China. Seeing the country's industrial construction in dire need of such equipment, the workers of the Shanghai No. 1 Machine Tool Plant determined to fill in the blank through hard work, self-reliance and socialist co-operation. After four months' en-

deavour beginning at the end of 1974, they succeeded in turning out an 8-metre hobbing machine and another 5-metre one.

The 8-metre machine is composed of some 11,000 parts and weighs 134 tons. Fourteen metres long, 4.4 metres wide, 5.6 metres high, it processes spur, helical or herringbone gears 8 metres in diameter and with a maximum modulus of 30 mm. When an index-miller is used, it can process 70-ton gearwheel with a 60 mm. modulus.

The plant used to put out only small and medium-sized hobbing machines, so when it came to making big pieces many difficulties cropped up. For example, the work of processing the 4-metre-high and 3.6-metre-wide column of the 8-metre hobbing machine would be done by a 3.15-metre-wide planer, the biggest on hand, but the column could not get through its gantry. The workers on the job pooled their wisdom for innovation and ironed out the problem by installing a ground-based single-column cutting post outside the gantry. Finding an ordinary lathe too short for large parts, they elongated it with an extension to its work table and by fixing a grinding head on it modified the lathe for both turning and grinding purposes. The machine thus renovated was found quite equal to the job.

More than one hundred factories in Shanghai working in close co-ordination with the Shanghai No. 1 Machine Tool Plant also contributed their share in making the hobbing machines.

The current upsurge to study the theory on the dictatorship of the proletariat has filled the workers and cadres with greater socialist enthusiasm. Some gave up their days off to fulfil the task ahead of schedule. Both hobbing machines were completed by mid-April. Cutting tests proved them capable of high-quality performance with accuracy up to required standards.

Stockings Worn in Paddyfields

IN China's southern provinces where mainly rice is grown, peasants work in wet paddyfields for long periods during the year. At the end of April and beginning of May when early rice is being transplanted, temperatures are still rather low and people tend to contract arthritis. In the sweltering heat of summer when the water is warm, it is easy to develop dermatitis or other diseases.

Workers and cadres of the Shanghai No. 1 Stocking Mill have joined efforts with the staff of the Shanghai Knitwear Purchase and Supply Station in trial-producing a kind of plastic stocking suitable for wear in the paddyfields. These prophylactic stockings are light, comfortable, durable and easy to keep clean. Worn in the field as protection against cold, they help prevent arthritis. They are also useful in warding off paddyfield dermatitis, schistosomiasis, leeches, insecticide-poisoning and other diseases.

The first batches of stockings produced before spring ploughing this year were greatly appreciated by the peasants.

(Continued from p. 21.)

Asia, in other words, to "fill the vacuum." For years, the Soviet Union, taking advantage of repeated U.S. defeats on the Vietnamese battlefield, has been expanding in Asia; Soviet fleets prowling the Indian Ocean to show their strength are getting larger. It is even trying to expand its sphere of influence in the Gulf, the Bay of Bengal and Malacca Strait.

The Soviet Union, it said, "expects also to legalize its faked identity as

an 'Asian country' through the setting up of such a system, so that it can interfere more directly in Asian affairs and establish military and economic forces in the Asian region."

For six years the Soviet Union has been eagerly peddling the "Asian security system," the article said. But most Asian countries have seen through this as a trap to pull them into the Soviet sphere of influence. Many countries have stated publicly that they "don't approve," "won't

participate," "can't accept" or "aren't interested in" the "Asian security system."

It pointed out: "After years of frustration, the Soviet Union has not given up. Now the wars in Viet Nam and Cambodia have come to an end. U.S. forces have basically withdrawn from the three Indochinese countries. The Soviet Union is again taking the opportunity to put forward the 'Asian security system.'" "It is worth noting what tricks the Soviet Union is up to this time."

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